

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-14 (canceled).

15 (new). A tool which comprises a plastic material and nanoscale particles embedded in the plastic material.

16 (new). The tool of claim 15 wherein the plastic material is provided as block material or casting material.

17 (new). The tool of claim 15 wherein the nanoscale particles have a particle size substantially in the range between about 15 nm and about 250 nm.

18 (new). The tool of claim 15 wherein the nanoscale particles are present in an amount of between about 5 weight % and about 60 weight % based on the total weight of the plastic material.

19 (new). The tool of claim 15 wherein the nanoscale particles are widely homogeneously distributed in the plastic material.

20 (new). The tool of claim 15 wherein the nanoscale particles contain a surface modifier.

21 (new). The tool of claim 15 wherein the plastic material has a glasslike amorphous structure.

22 (new). The tool of claim 15 further comprising a material with gliding properties that is embedded in the plastic material.

23 (new). The tool of claim 22 wherein the material with gliding properties is present in an amount of between about 10 weight % and about 60 weight % based on the total weight of the plastic material.

24 (new). The tool of claim 23 wherein the material with gliding properties is selected from the group consisting of graphite and molybdenum sulfide.

25 (new). The tool of claim 15 wherein the plastic material is a polyurethane or an epoxy resin.

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26 (new). A conversion tool which comprises a plastic material and nanoscale particles embedded in the plastic material.

27 (new). The conversion tool of claim 26 wherein the plastic material is provided as block material or casting material.

28 (new). The conversion tool of claim 26 wherein the nanoscale particles have a particle size substantially in the range between about 15 nm and about 250 nm.

29 (new). The conversion tool of claim 26 wherein the nanoscale particles are present in an amount of between about 5 weight % and about 60 weight % based on the total weight of the plastic material.

30 (new). The conversion tool of claim 26 wherein the nanoscale particles are homogeneously distributed in the plastic material.

31 (new). The conversion tool of claim 26 wherein the nanoscale particles contain a surface modifier.

32 (new). The conversion tool of claim 26 wherein the plastic material has a glasslike amorphous structure.

33 (new). The conversion tool of claim 26 further comprising a material with gliding properties that is embedded in the plastic material.

34 (new). The conversion tool of claim 33 wherein the material with gliding properties is present in an amount of between about 10 weight % and about 60 weight % based on the total weight of the plastic material.

35 (new). The conversion tool of claim 34 wherein the material with gliding properties is selected from the group consisting of graphite and molybdenum sulfide.

36 (new). The conversion tool of claim 26 wherein the plastic material is a polyurethane or an epoxy resin.

37 (new). A cupping tool which comprises a plastic material and nanoscale particles embedded in the plastic material.

38 (new). The cupping tool of claim 37 wherein the plastic material is provided as block material or casting material.

39 (new). The cupping tool of claim 37 wherein the nanoscale particles have a particle size substantially in the range between about 15 nm and about 250 nm.

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40 (new). The cupping tool of claim 37 wherein the nanoscale particles are present in an amount of between about 5 weight % and about 60 weight % based on the total weight of the plastic material.

41 (new). The cupping tool of claim 37 wherein the nanoscale particles are homogeneously distributed in the plastic material.

42 (new). The cupping tool of claim 37 wherein the nanoscale particles contain a surface modifier.

43 (new). The cupping tool of claim 37 wherein the plastic material has a glasslike amorphous structure.

44 (new). The cupping tool of claim 37 further comprising a material with gliding properties that is embedded in the plastic material.

45 (new). The cupping tool of claim 44 wherein the material with gliding properties is present in an amount of between about 10 weight % and about 60 weight % based on the total weight of the plastic material.

46 (new). The cupping tool of claim 45 wherein the material with gliding properties is selected from the group consisting of graphite and molybdenum sulfide.

47 (new). The cupping tool of claim 37 wherein the plastic material is a polyurethane or an epoxy resin.

48 (new). A method for converting a metal work piece using a conversion tool wherein the conversion tool comprises a plastic material and nanoscale particles embedded in the plastic material.

50 (new). A method for cupping sheet metal using a cupping tool wherein the cupping tool comprises a plastic material and nanoscale particles embedded in the plastic material.